

## Message Text

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70

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 FEA-01 /099 W

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P R 090126Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5940

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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DEPT PASS STR AND USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MTN EPAP

SUBJECT: JAPANESE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON AMERICAN LEMONS

REF: STATE 300976

1. DURING CALL ON SECOND NORTH AMERICA DIVISION DIRECTOR SAITO AT FONMIN ON OTHER MATTERS, SAITO RAISED QUESTION OF JAPANESE RESTRICTIONS ON LEMONS. HE SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA HAD ORDERED THE PREPARATION OF A PAPER STATING THE JAPANESE POSITION. ALTHOUGH NOT FULLY CLEARED, THIS PAPER IS CLOSE TO COMPLETION AND WILL BE DELIVERED TO U.S. SOON.

2. SAITO SUMMARIZED THE PAPER AS SAYING THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS SYMPATHETIC TO THE U.S. PROPOSAL THAT JAPAN ADOPT THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS AS THE STANDARD FOR IMPORTS. HOWEVER, THE TECHNICAL QUESTION OF THE SAFETY

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OF OPP AND TBZ IS OUTSIDE THE COMPETENCE OF THE FOREIGN

MINISTRY. THE AUTHORITY FOR APPROVING THOSE ADDITIVES RESTS WITH THE FOOD SANITATION INVESTIGATION COUNCIL, A GROUP INDEPENDENT OF GOVERNMENT. THAT COUNCIL HAS FULL AUTHORITY TO DECIDE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND SOME OF ITS MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT TEST DATA ON MUTAGENICITY IS RELEVANT AND SHOULD BE PREPARED. THE DRAFT PAPER INDICATES THAT SUCH TEST DATA MIGHT BE COMPLETED IN SEVEN TO EIGHT MONTHS. THE PAPER ALSO ASSERTS THAT THE PROHIBITION OF OPP IS IN NO SENSE A CONCEALED BARRIER TO TRADE DESIGNED TO PROTECT JAPANESE INTERESTS.

3. SAITO REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MINISTER FUKADA AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY YEUTTER IN WASHINGTON AT WHICH YEUTTER REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE NO POINT IN SENDING EXPERTS TO JAPAN TO DISCUSS THE ACCEPTABILITY OF OPP IF THERE IS A PRE-CONCEIVED CONCLUSION ON THE JAPANESE SIDE THAT SUCH TESTING IS VALID AND NECESSARY. SAITO SAID THAT, HE THOUGHT THAT EXPERT LEVEL DISCUSSIONS ARE NECESSARY IF A SOLUTION IS TO BE FOUND. ECON COUNSELOR SAID THAT WE COULD NOT SEND EXPERTS TO TOKYO IF THE SUBJECT THEY CAME TO DISCUSS WERE ALREADY DECIDED IN ADVANCE. SAITO SAID HE COULD GIVE ASSURANCES THAT THE SENDING OF EXPERTS FROM WASHINGTON WOULD IN NO WAY PREJUDICE THE POSITION OF THE U.S. OR LIMIT THE SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED. SAITO NOTED THAT THE QUESTION OF LEMON ADDITIVES HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY PUBLICITY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS AND URGED THAT STUDY OF ISSUE CONTINUE PRIVATELY SO AS TO AVOID INFLAMMATORY PRESS REPORTING.

4. SAITO CONCLUDED THAT HE EXPECTED THE PAPER ON CITRUS IMPORT RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE APPROVED QUICKLY AND DELIVERED TO THE EMBASSY WELL BEFORE THE DATE OF JAN 12 SET BY AMBASSADOR DENT IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH YASUKAWA.  
HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORT CONTROLS, CITRUS FRUITS, FUNGICIDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
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**Subject:** JAPANESE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON AMERICAN LEMONS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, EPAP, JA, US, MTN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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